Implementation of Juvenile Justice Act, 1986

1922. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether at two-day National Seminar held in New Delhi in April this year, Government's attention was drawn to the woefully inadequate implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 and the need to humanise the Juvenile Justice system;

(b) whether any review of the working of the system re-enacted in 1986, has been made; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken/being to provide a human face?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The Government has been seized of inadequacies of the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 and the need to humanise the Juvenil Justice system much before the national seminar on the subject was held. With a view to strengthening the implementation of the Act in the Country and bringing about a qualitative improvement in the services provided, the Ministry's scheme for prevention and control of Juvenile social maladjustment was reviewed and renamed as "A" Programme for Juvenile Justice.

The Government is already considering amendments to the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 with a view to humanise the whole juvenile justice system.

Educational Centres for Tribal Women in Assam

1923. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether grants are being given to the voluntary organizations running educational centres for tribal women in the hilly areas of Assam;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Representation of SC/ST Women in Judiciary

†1924. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representation of women belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe is almost negligible in the Judiciary; and

(b) if so, whether Government will take steps to give reservation to these categories atleast in district courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any class of persons.

(b) As per Articles 233, 234 and 235 of the Constitution of India, the matter relating to appointment, promotion and posting of persons in District and Subordinate Judiciary are within the purview of the respective State Governments and High Courts.

Employment of Disabled in Private Sector

1925. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private sector is under no obligation legally to provide employment to the disabled;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal for doing so;

(c) whether the publications to educate disabled on the benefit etc. available to them are published in English only; and

(d) if so, whether it would be done in other languages also?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.